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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Mallory V. Schardt

Typed or Printed Name of Person Sending Paper or Fee

Mallory V. Schardt

Signature

December 6, 2006

Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:)
ERNST MARKART) Examiner: Paul Sang Hwa Hyun
for: TEST STRIP SYSTEM) Group Art Unit: 1743
Serial No.: 10/043,681) Confirmation No.: 9212
Filed: January 10, 2002) Atty. Docket No.: 3597-0013-1

Hartford, Connecticut, December 6, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION AND
PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND**

Dear Sir:

This paper is in response to the Office Action dated August 7, 2006, issued in the above-identified application. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.